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Dated: December 18, 2006

Signature:

(Russell C. Petersen)

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.16**

**Expedited Procedure**

**Examining Group 3732**

**Docket No.: 30815/26878**

**(PATENT)**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

**Gerhard Schmid et al.**

Application No.: 10/643,709

Confirmation No.: 5110

Filed: August 19, 2003

Art Unit: 3732

For: FUNCTIONAL HANDPIECE HAVING  
A LIGHT EMISSION ELEMENT  
AT ITS FORWARD END

Examiner: John J. Wilson

**AMENDMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated September 22, 2006, please enter the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith and amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims begin on Page 2.**

**Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 7.**